



GRW 2161 #2

P/1318-38

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Received

In re: Patent Application of

JUL 19 2000

Robert BARRITZ

Date: June 27, 2000

Serial 09/389,858

Group Art Unit: 2761 Group 2700

Filed: September 2, 1999

Examiner: --

For: HARDWARE/SOFTWARE MANAGEMENT, PURCHASING AND  
OPTIMIZATION SYSTEM

BU 11 2000

Asst. Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL  
UNDER MPEP § 708.02 VIII**

Sir:

Applicant, through the undersigned, his attorney, hereby petitions, pursuant to MPEP § 708.02 VIII, that the present application be made special.

In support of this Petition, there are submitted a Declaration by Max Moskowitz, patent attorney of the applicant reporting upon a search for prior art, and copies of the references, plus the required fee of \$130.

In the event the actual fee is greater than the payment submitted or is inadvertently not enclosed, or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this case is not paid, the Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

It is submitted that all claims in this application are directed to a single invention. If the Patent and Trademark

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Office determines that all claims presented are not directed to a single invention, the undersigned, acting for the applicant, will make an election without traverse, following telephone restriction practice.

The attorneys' report on the search for the prior art describes who made the search, supplies one copy of the references, and submits a detailed discussion of the references, including how the invention is distinguishable from the references.

Grant of the Petition is solicited.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on June 27, 2000:

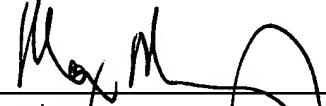
Max Moskowitz

Name of applicant, assignee or  
Registered Representative

  
Signature  
June 27, 2000

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

  
Max Moskowitz  
Registration No.: 30,576  
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Telephone: (212) 382-0700

MM:ms

Encl.



D/1318-38

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Asst. Commissioner of Patents

and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**DECLARATION OF MAX MOSKOWITZ**

Sir:

Max Moskowitz declares:

1. I am registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Registration No. 30,576, and am one of the attorneys who is empowered to act in the above application.

2. My declaration is made in support of the applicant's Petition to Make Special the present application pursuant to MPEP 708.02 VIII.

3. I commissioned a search of pertinent prior art by engaging Charles S. Spencer, a Washington D.C. based patent searching bureau, and discovered certain art that may be related to the subject matter of the instant application. Copies of the most pertinent references located during the search or otherwise

known to me are enclosed herewith together with a form PTO-1449 as required.

4. The relevant patents are listed below:

Patent Nos.:

5,845,078  
5,491,791  
5,337,258  
5,872,909  
5,799,193  
6,041,182  
6,059,842

5. The search was conducted through class 714, subclass 47 and class 717, subclass 11.

6. In general, the invention manages the costs of a computer data center and allows the creation of scenarios for determining the optimum acquisition, expansion and reconfiguration strategies of such computer data centers. To this end, a knowledge base holds technical information and/or specifications of various storage devices and other computer hardware and a modeling tool allows the creation of various "what-if" scenarios of possible data center configurations for long term projections of the technical and financial requirements of existing modified or proposed data center configurations.

7. For example, method claim 1 provides for modeling the elements of the data center configuration on a computer; providing a knowledge base of financial information which reflects financial ownership costs of the elements; correlating the knowledge base information with the elements of the configuration and outputting data which enables the assessing of the financial cost of ownership of an actual or contemplated computer data center.

8. It appears to the applicant's undersigned representative that none of the references provided by the patent searcher that has been engaged for the purposes of this petition, discloses or suggests the invention disclosed in the claims of the present application.

9. U.S. Patent No. 5,799,193 to Sherman et al. describes a scenario-based system for updating an object oriented system model. Essentially, this document relates to a software development tool which takes hardware configurations into account. As part of the software design, scenarios are utilized to provide information about the desired behavior of a software system. As described at column 4, beginning at line 32: "The present invention is directed to a scenario based method for

developing object oriented system models. Scenarios provide valuable information about the desired behavior of a system." However, this document does not deal with and does not disclose or suggest a substantially automated modeling tool as the present invention which models the hardware and/or software of an existing system and which can also model "what-if" configurations for the purposes of providing total cost of ownership information as disclosed and incorporated in the claims of the present application.

10. U.S. Patent No. 5,845,078 to Tezuka et al is directed to a network integrated construction system and to a method of installing network connection machines and setting network parameters. The emphasis of the description is on the actual comprehensive construction of the network itself, rather than the modeling thereof. The idea of the disclosed invention is to avoid having operators be physically present at installation sites and at the actual machines which need to be connected to a computer. This is entirely different from the present invention, which is a modeling tool of existing or contemplated network or data center configurations and which has at its heart the feature of calculating costs of ownership associated with various data center configurations/scenarios.

11. U.S. Patent No. 5,491,791 to Glowny et al. is somewhat similar to the aforementioned patent in that it is a system for remote workstation monitoring within a distributed computing environment. Although the system of this patent is also an inventorying system of the hardware that is connected in a system, it is not a modeling tool of hardware/software with the capability of calculating cost of ownership over a defined period of time as in the inventions claimed in the present application.

12. Although U.S. Patent 5,337,258 to Dennis is entitled "Cost Metrics," the disclosure thereof is not pertinent to the present invention. The gist of the disclosure concerns calculating the cost of creating printer output in certain configurations. To this end, the printer system contains a timer and evaluator to determine the execution type of a selected set of instructions. From the execution times, a printer model is constructed to predict the execution time for any of a set of instructions. The accumulated data is stored in a log file and used by a resource assembler to calculate the cost of executing a set of user-specified instructions. In contrast, the present invention is a modeling tool of what is essentially an entire computer data center and includes the appropriate knowledge base and similar information that allows the calculation of cost of

ownership and the variations in cost of ownership based on "what-if" scenarios.

13. In the same vain as the foregoing patent, U.S. Patent No. 5,872,909 to Wilner et al. is a logic analyzer for software, the purpose of which is to monitor the execution of a plurality of tasks in the memory of a target computer. The system of this document logs event data representing a plurality of events in a plurality of software environment contexts. No attention at all is given to calculating cost elements.

14. In the system of U.S. Patent No. 6,041,182 to Hart et al. the task of solving apparatus faults is facilitated by allowing a user to enter symptoms based on the user's analysis of the apparatus. In response, the system provides information concerning likely faults with the apparatus. As the systems are entered, the relative value of individual faults is determined and related to the symptoms they cause. The user can then select technical information relating to probable faults in the system. Again, this document does not disclose and is not related to and does not constitute a modeling system as defined in the present claims nor a modeling system with the feature of allowing one to

calculate cost of ownership data over set periods of times for various data center configurations.

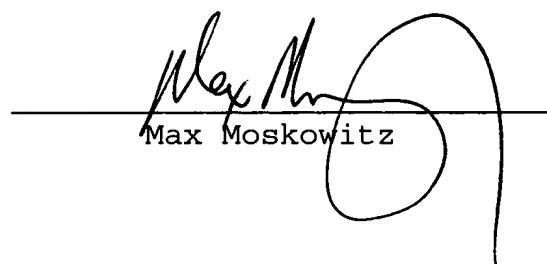
15. U.S. Patent No. 6,059,842 to Dumarot et al.

describes a method and system for increasing the apparent speed of a computer by automatically optimizing software and hardware according to users specified preferences. Although this document refers to minimizing costs, the emphasis is on the utilization of software and hardware during the use thereof. The "optimization" that is carried out includes the setting of various parameters in hardware, operating system software, or application software such that the system as a whole runs as efficiently as possible. This document, as the others, does not disclose a method and system which is intrinsically a modeling tool of actual or contemplated data center configurations and which allows such configurations to be tested against cost of ownership information in the manner and sense of the claims presented in the instant application.

16. Based upon the foregoing observations about the prior art, it is my opinion that the claims in the present application are allowable over the prior art.

17. I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, except for those statements made on information and belief, which are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful, false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this declaration, this application and any patent resulting therefrom.

Dated: June 27, 2000



Max Moskowitz

Encl.: Prior Art References  
Form PTO-1449